CLAIMS:

What is claimed and desired to be secured by letters of patent of United States is:

1. A back-up mirror system for a driver of a vehicle to improve safety when driving in reverse near an adjacent view-blocking obstacle, aiding in viewing any nearby oncoming traffic traveling in a lane or lanes of cross-traffic which pass transversely behind said vehicle, without said driver turning their head or eyes to face generally towards the rear of said vehicle, comprising a two-mirror optical system comprising, in combination:

a first mirror, the rear-view mirror, mounted by suitable means inside said vehicle's passenger compartment in a region generally in front of said vehicle's driver's seat and substantially near said vehicle's front windshield edge whose mirror surface is generally facing the rear of said vehicle, and

a second mirror, the back-up mirror, mounted by suitable means inside said passenger compartment in a region generally behind said driver's seat and substantially near an edge of said vehicle's rear window or windows, whose mirror surface is generally facing said vehicle's left-side or right-side,

whereby said driver sees an image of said lane containing said nearby oncoming cross-traffic via said first mirror's image of said back-up mirror's image, all without said driver's head or eyes turning to generally face the rear of said vehicle when deciding to drive in reverse into said lane or lanes of cross-traffic.

2. A method for a driver of a vehicle to improve safety when driving in reverse near an adjacent view-blocking obstacle, aiding said driver in viewing any nearby oncoming traffic traveling in a lane or lanes of cross-traffic which pass transversely behind said vehicle, comprising a mirror, the back-up mirror, mounted by suitable means inside said vehicle's passenger compartment in a region generally behind said vehicle's driver's seat and substantially near an edge of said vehicle's rear window or windows, whose mirror surface is generally facing said vehicle's left-side or right-side, whereby said driver, whose eyes are turned to generally look towards the rear of said vehicle, sees an image of said lane containing said nearby oncoming cross-traffic in said back-up mirror when deciding to drive in reverse into said lane or lanes of cross-traffic.

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